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Tuesday, February 21, 2012

A grand finish to Carnival 58





Carnival 2012 will stage one last gasp tonight with the bur-

REE

ning of Rey Momo at midnight in the Aruba Entertainment



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Carnival 2012 will stage one last gasp tonight with the burning of Rey Momo at midnight in the Aruba Entertainment Center, auguring Ash Wednesday and the commencement of Lent, but this past weekend was a spectacular finish to the six weeks of revelry with the San Nicolas Grand parade on Saturday and the Oranjestad Grand Parade on Sunday after-

Each parade sported 15 groups and over 5000 participants garbed in fantastical and artistic costumes and makeup that without a doubt, substantially depleted the world's supply of feathers, sequins and body glitter. Sumptuous floats and roadpieces had been kept under wraps only to be revealed for the final parades, including the Champion Roadpiece of the San Nicolas and Oranjestad parade from OPC Group, a tribute to Aruba's adorable Shoco, the indigenous burrowing owl that was recently declared our national bird. TOB Group claimed the second prize and winner of the Most Luxurious Roadpiece with the "Wings of Justice" The owls made quite an impression, also winning Best Bodypiece, Best Section overall and the Culture award for the SN and Oranjestad parades. Champagne Group and their "Taste of Russia" theme won for Best Float both days as well.

Many commented on the appeal of the new tents required by the government on the waterside of L.G. Smith



tection, as they provided

a much more attractive and uniform presentation over the homemade trailers of the past. Despite beginning at an earlier hour, the Oranjestad Parade still did not finish until after sunset, because of the size and number of the floats and par-



ticipants. A good indicator that despite changing times, carnival is still a beloved and thriving tradition on Aruba, with residents and vacationers, More pics on pg 12 alike!

By Rosalie Klein







# A Valentine's Day Filled With Love at La Trattoria El Faro Blanco Restaurant

Maria Martinus announced as winner of the special Valentine's Day raffle



Love was definitely in the air on Valentine's Day at La Trattoria El Faro Blanco Restaurant. It was a delight to see couples, families and friends alike sharing their unconditional love with one another on this special day.

La Trattoria El Faro Blanco Restaurant would like to thank everyone who chose La Trattoria El Faro Blanco as their restaurant to celebrate Valentine's Day with their loved ones. Furthermore everyone that dined at La Trattoria El Faro Blanco Restaurant on this special day entered to win a dinner for two! Mrs. Maria Martinus was announced on Wednesday as the lucky winner. Mrs. Martinus was all smiles as she accepted her dinner for two gift certificate from manager Arthur Kelly on the balcony of the restaurant. Cupid's arrow definitely brought her good luck on Valentine's Day.



Arthur would like to remind everyone that the special 20% discount for the month of lovers does not end with Valentine's Day but is valid until the end of February. There is also a happy hour from 5:00 to 7:00 PM and live music from 7:30 to 9:30 PM. Mr. Kelly would like to extend the invitation to come and enjoy the unparreled athmosphere at La Trattoria El Faro Blanco Restaurant and ask for the special cocktail of the month; You & I.

# "Casting Call" for Storytellers for special Kompa Nanzi progam

The Grupo Kompa Nanzi, a foundation dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of classic stories about a mischievous spider and which are an integral element of Caribbean culture, have scheduled an entertaining evening at the Cas di Cultura in Oranjestad for Saturday, March 10.

The program will be presented in all the languages of Aruba: Papiamento, English, Dutch and Spanish, as with each language, and where it is used in the Caribbean, Kompa Nanzi stories have taken on a life and spirit that is uniquely characteristic of the various cultures they represent.

Principal organizer, educator Mirto Lacle, expressed the hope to recruit native-language speaking narrators in all four languages to read a collection of the Kompa Nanzi stories as they evolved and were written in these different languages. Expatriates from the U.S., Holland and Latin America are most welcome to submit their names to participate in the show during a "casting call" sessions at the Cas di Cultura taking place this evening, Feb 21 between 6:00 and 8:00 PM and again tomorrow night, the 22nd, at the same hours. Poten-



tial participants can arrive anytime during the first hour; an information session will be from 7:00 to 8:00 PM.

There is the possibility of remuneration for participation, an application for funding has been submitted, but not yet been approved. It is the hope of the program's organizers to also represent the multi-cultural make-up of Aruba's society by casting individuals originally from other countries reading the stories in their native languages. The program will be videotaped and placed on an international website, so they are seeking individuals with good narrative skills and on-screen presence.

For more information, or to submit your name if you cannot make it to either casting call, telephone 740-2044 or 586-8998.

# Body searches will continue for the rest of the Carnival period



Management reserves the right to discontinue this promotion at any time.

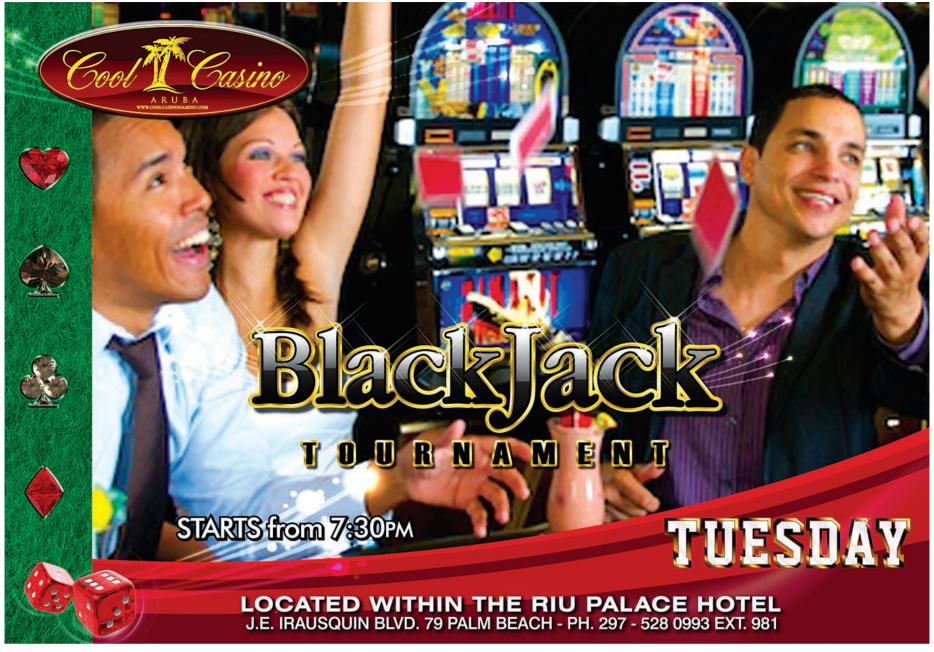
ORANJESTAD -- The Ministry of Public Justice and the Aruba Police Force has informed the community that the police will continue to apply the legal preventive personal body searches; search clothing, pockets, vehicles, bags and handbags. This measure is not new to the Aruban public as the police have used this on more occasions as a control and preventive measure in certain areas. The goal is to ascer-

tain whether there are illegal drugs or firearms on anyone's person. The measure proved very successful during the past weekend. Various arrests were made with several firearms and drugs confiscated by the police as a result of the body searches!

The police also remind us all that the "faya Bo haya" policy remains in effect, and if it results that the person has an outstanding unpaid traffic fine, the person will be arrested and incarcerated in the KIA jail immediately!

Our Police Force is working diligently to ensure the safety of the general public. They expect the community to understand and cooperate with all efforts by the police to maintain order and tranquility.

Everyone is responsible to do his/her part in contributing to a pleasant and safe Carnival.



# Last chance to win with THE MORNING NEWS Carnival photo contest



The end of this week marks the deadline for THE MORN-ING NEWS Carnival photo contest, and a chance to win a weekend at the delightful Boardwalk Small Hotel in Malmok; 2nd prize is tickets for 2 on the Mi Dushi and 3rd, a fantastic play package from Cool Casino in the Riu Resort. Full contest rules and requirements can be found on our website www.themorningnewsaruba.

Tonight, with the burning of Rey Momo, there will be excellent opportunities for some fun and spectacular shots; send us your dog or cat in carnival costume, or eloquent shots of friends and family preparing for the carnival events.

The Boardwalk Small Hotel offers spacious casitas with full kitchen, separate bedrooms and terraces equipped with individual barbecue grills and hammocks, for a lovely get-

away. The stunning tropical gardens provide privacy and a great getaway. Submitted photos will be printed in the paper, and there are some special surprise gifts for the first place winner as well.

THE MORNING NEWS is very pleased and proud to be able to offer this exciting and special prize as its grand prize. Each photo submitted also earns a raffle ticket towards a final drawing for round trip airfare to Bonaire with Tiara Air Aruba. There is no cost of any kind to enter; the only requirement is to subscribe to THE MORNING NEWS online and "like" our Facebook page;

both of which are absolutely free!

So everyone is a winner! Not only do you have a chance to win a stay at the fabulous Boardwalk or the other great prizes, but you will have Aruba's best source for local news in English delivered to your e-mail inbox daily the moment it goes online.

Keep up with all that is happening on the island and share your carnival experience to win big with THE MORNING NEWS!

by Rosalie Klein

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# Street Preacher Duane Lyons is a "silent witness" on Aruba until the end of February

During the frenzied revelry of the final days of Carnival 58, islanders had to wonder at a calm, quiet presence stationed just by the starting point of the parades, many wondering at his garb -"What group is that? I don't remember it being one of the themes..."

The man is Street Preacher Duane Lyons, a licensed ordained minister and graduate of the Christ for the Nations Institute in Dallas, who proclaims he is a "silent witness" to the healing power of faith with the simple words on his striking orange tee shirt, "Jesus Saves."

Passers-by will hear no exhortations or receive any flyers from Duane as he stands on a street corner and cordially greets those about him. He began his mission, which has taken him to 59 countries and 47 U.S. states 28 years ago. He began one Christmas, stationing himself quietly among the busy holiday shoppers hurriedly making their way, "to remind them of what Christmas was all about."

A monthly newsletter fol-

lowed, and invitations to be a guest speaker, taking him on the road. He when he began his mission, but eventually married and had 6 children. His wife Gina supports him completely in his calling joins him in his efforts at times. Occasionally the children accompany him, as in the case of one of a number of visits to Haiti, after it was devastated by an earthquake, which proved very instructional. "Teenagers can sometimes complain about minor stuff, about things they see and want, but after they saw how those people are suffering every day, the kids got very quiet. They learned to appreciate their good fortune. My family lives a simple life, with no debt, but the bills get paid. We live by faith."

Duane has come to Aruba of his own accord, not by invitation to speak, though he is available if any churches are interested. He will be here until the end of the month, and is staying at the hotel Victoria in Oranjestad. "The Lord just put it into my heart to come to Aruba; I just felt led to come to Aruba. I have been to quite a few Caribbean islands, and I find a genuine sincerity and warmth in the Aruban people. I had no idea it was carnival time when I came here." He explained that sometimes "People



speak to me, need to get something off their chests, or they want me to speak to them; I am only here to offer the solace of faith, I believe this is what Jesus was really about."

"A blind man made me this cross," he says of the beloved symbol that sent him on a path he had contemplated since his childhood. "When I was a child I had a desire to convey the comforting power of faith; it was while I was working as a cor-

rections officer that 2 convicted murders approached me and told me they had found salvation in their belief in Jesus. I realized if it had brought these men to a righteous path, I needed to get back to that dream, and it has brought me happiness and peace. I hope my simple message of peace and love gives people comfort and helps them find their way to doing the best they can with their lives."

by Rosalie Klein



# Dutch Prince Johan Friso is in a coma



LECH -- Dutch Prince Johan Friso has been unconscious since needing artificial resuscitation after being buried beneath an avalanche while skiing in Austria last Friday.

His condition remains stable but he is still in a critical condition, the Dutch governments said after the Queen Beatrix visited him in hospital on Sunday evening.

Prince Friso was skiing offpiste, with an unnamed Austrian friend, around noon when he was buried by an avalanche near Lech, where the Dutch royal family traditionally take their winter holidays.

Despite wearing a ski-helmet and an avalanche beeper, he was trapped for 20 minutes under the snow before he was rescued and had to be resuscitated by rescuers.

According to the Dutch newspaper NRC Handelsblad, the prince has not got a fractured skull or broken limbs but is in a coma after being suffocated under the avalanche.

"There are no injuries to the rest of his body. The only serious problem is asphyxia, respiratory distress," a neurosurgeon told the newspaper.\

Doctors fear that the oxygen deprivation could lead to brain damage but early CT scans do not show swelling or pressure from blood vessels.

A Dutch statement said: "The health condition of his royal majesty Prince Friso remains unchanged. He is stable, but not out of danger."

# Aruba 2012 Soul Beach Music Festival Memorial weekend features the best in comedy and R&B

SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL hosted by Aruba is proud to announce that multi-platinum selling, chart-topping, Grammy award-winning powerhouse R. Kelly will headline the 2012 SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL being held May 23-28 in Aruba. Joining an already stellar legacy by world-renowned guest artists, R. Kelly will headline the main stage of the Nikki Beach Amphitheatre closing night, Sun-

day, May 27. Known for his mesmerizing live stage show, the multi-instrumentalist, producer and vocalist R. Kelly will perform an electrifying set, allowing Festivalgoers a chance to turn up the heat on Memorial Day weekend with one of the most notable artists of the decade. Decor here is cosmopolitan tropical: turquoise bliss set against caramel sensations. Aruba isn't just somewhere you visit. It's something you

experience

"Aruba welcomes all the fans of the SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL for another celebration of spectacular performances and a chic island ambiance under the starry skies and on Aruba's famous beaches," said Otmar Oduber, Minister of Tourism, Transportation and Labor.

"We are thrilled to bring the incredible R. Kelly to the 2012 SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL in Aruba," said Mark Adkins, producer. "Fans can look forward to an amazing weekend of great performances this Memorial Day Weekend with a combination of sizzling beach parties, luscious dining and plush Night Club after parties."

The 2012 SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL rolls out more highly anticipated announcements of main stage performing artists in the weeks to come. For informa-

tion about ticket sales, accommodations and the latest updates sign up for the SOUL BEACH CLUB, visit http://www.soulbeach.net or http://www.aruba.com . Join the SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL community: follow us on Twitter @SoulBeachMusic and become a fan of 2012 SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL on www.Facebook.com/soulbeachmusic .

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## TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

# Red Cross seeks passage to deliver aid in Syria

DAMASCUS (AFP) - The Red Cross said yesterday it was in talks with the Syrian authorities and rebels to halt the violence so it can deliver aid amid calls to allow women and children out of the besieged city of Homs.

President Bashar al-Assad, meanwhile, again accused foreigners of funding and arming "terrorist groups" with the aim of destabilising his unrest-hit country, as Iranian warships docked at the port of tartus in a show of force.

"The International Committee of the Red Cross is exploring several possibilities for delivering urgently needed humanitarian aid," said ICRC spokesman Bijan Farnoudi.

"These include the cessation of fighting in the most affected areas to facilitate swift Syrian Arab Red Crescent and

ICRC access to the people in need."

China's influential People's Daily warned that any Western support for the rebels would trigger a "large-scale civil war."

But despite a weekend appeal by a visiting Chinese envoy for all sides to stop the violence, monitors said regime forces targeted the central city of Homs for a 17th straight day.

Attacks on Homs killed nine out of the 15 people killed across Syria yesterday, according to reports by the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and state media.

Assad, meeting visiting Russian parliamentarians, thanked Russia for its support, saying Syria was being "targeted by armed terrorist groups receiving funding and arms from foreign parties, aiming to destabilise" it, state media said.

Meanwhile, Tunisia's Foreign Minister Rafik Abdessalem speaking after a meeting of Mediterranean foreign ministers, said there had been agreement on the need to avoid "an Iraqi scenario" and preserve Syria's integrity.

He also said that the Syrian opposition will take part in a "friends of Syria" conference in Tunisia to be held this week.

Elsewhere, two warships from Iran, a key backer of the Syrian regime, docked at Tartus, Tehran's state television reported yesterday, adding that their crew would train Syrian sailors.

Iran's navy chief, Admiral Habibollah Sayari, said on Saturday the ships, a destroyer and supply vessel, had passed through the Suez Canal to show the Islamic republic's military "might."

# Whitney Houston dresses, jewelry to be auctioned

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Dresses and jewelry worn by Whitney Houston will be included at a celebrity auction in Los Angeles in late March, it was announced yesterday, a day after the pop diva was laid to rest.

"In a rare twist of fate," several items from her musical career and movie appearances will be available, "as if the pop legend was determined to keep her presence alive," said celebrity auction house Julien's Auctions.

Included will be a black velvet dress with metallic silver ribbon with an estimated asking price of \$1,000-\$2,000 and faux pearl drop earrings worn by Houston in the hit 1992 movie "The Bodyguard," expected to fetch \$600-\$800.

"Other items include jewelry and costumes from Houston's appearance in film and on stage," the auction house said a written statement.

Houston was found dead on February 11 in her Los Angeles hotel room. A funeral ceremony celebrating her life was held on Saturday, the day before she was laid to rest in a New Jersey cemetery next to her late father.

Houston, who was just 48, sold more than 170 million records during a nearly three-decade career, but she fought a long and public battle against substance abuse while trying to keep her performing talent alive.

Speculation has raged since her death that the singer may have succumbed to a lethal cocktail of prescription drugs and alcohol, though official results from her autopsy may not be made public for several weeks.

Riot police beat students

in Spain protest

# New German president to be elected March 18

BERLIN(AFP) - Germany's next president will be elected on March 18, the parliament's head said yesterday, with East German Lutheran pastor Joachim Gauck certain to be voted in with cross-party support.

Parliament president Norbert Lammert said in a state-

ment that a special body made up of MPs and other dignitaries would meet to elect a new president to replace Christian Wulff who resigned on Friday amid allegations of corruption.

March 18 is the last possible date for the body to meet, as it must convene at least 30

days after the resignation of a president.

Gauck, 72, is certain to be elected as he enjoys the support of all the main parties in the body, with the exception of the far-left Linke.

Wulff was forced to resign on Friday after prosecutors called for his immunity to be lifted so they could investigate allegations that he enjoyed favours from a film producer friend.

Wulff, the handpicked choice of Angela Merkel, won a 2010 election over the popular Gauck but the vote turned into a debacle for the chancellor as members of her own party defied her wishes and voted against Wulff.

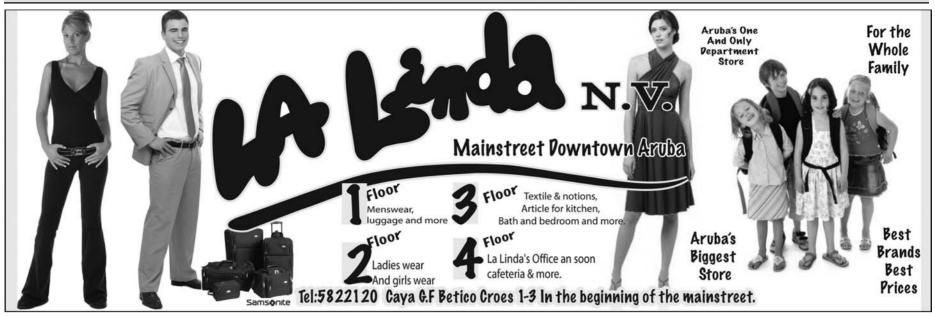


VALENCIA: A riot Police officer wields his baton towards a protester during clashes following a demonstration in Valencia on February 20, 2012. The demonstrators gathered to protest against cuts in education budgets which they say have left classrooms without heating. A Valencia police spokesman confirmed to AFP that arrests had been made, but could not confirm how many. Spanish media said about 10 people were detained.

(AFP PHOTO)



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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

# Melting ice wrecks boats on Danube



People look at a sunken boat among big chunks of ice on the Danube River in Zemun near Belgrade on February 20, 2012. Hundreds of small boats and several rafts on the Danube river were damaged near Belgrade by big chunks of ice that have begun melting due to raising temperatures, an official said yesterday. (AFP PHOTO)

# 44 dead and 30 fugitives after Mexico prison riot

MONTERREY (AFP) - Members of Mexico's Zetas drug gang killed 44 rivals from the Gulf cartel in a prison riot before staging a mass escape, possibly with help from authorities, Mexican officials said yesterday.

Prisoners bludgeoned and stabbed other inmates to death in one of Mexico's deadliest prison riots Sunday in the Apodaca prison, an overcrowded facility 30 kilometers (18 miles) north of Monterrey, the state capital.

"In the midst of the riot and disorder inside the prison, a group of 30 inmates succeeded in escaping the penitentiary," Rodrigo Medina, governor of the northern state of Nuevo Leon, told a news conference.

Medina said the escaped prisoners were all Zetas and



A relative of inmates at Apodaca prison, argues with a guard following a riot inside the prison. (AFP PHOTO)

those who died were their rivals from the Gulf cartel -- gangs which have spread violence across the region and beyond since breaking an alliance in 2010.

He said four senior prison officials and 18 guards had been dismissed and were under investigation for possible complicity in the mass escape.

Authorities said Sunday that the riot may have begun as a diversion to cover a breakout.

Medina released names and pictures of the fugitives, and posted rewards of up to 10 million pesos (\$775,000) for information leading to their capture.

The riot came just days

after a fire in a jail in Honduras left 359 dead, again highlighting terrible overcrowding in Latin American prisons.

Rampant drug trafficking, score-settling between gang members and official corruption have turned prisons into human tinder boxes.

The prison population in Mexico and Central America has swollen in line with the region's increasingly important role in the cocaine trafficking trade, meaning outdated facilities are straining at the seams.

Distraught families gathered outside the Apodaca prison awaiting news of loved ones in a desperate scene, with some women fainting.

# Britain warns of widespread summer drought

LONDON (AFP) - Yesterday Britain declared a drought in the southeast and warned that the rest of the country faced widespread water shortages this summer, with some supplies at their lowest for a quarter of a century.

Despite Britain's reputation as having a rainy climate and the fact that it is still winter in the northern hemisphere, the government hosted a "drought summit" with water companies, farmers and wildlife groups.

Environment Minister Car-

oline Spelman said southeastern England had now joined the Anglia region in eastern England and other parts of the country in drought.

"More areas are likely to be affected as we continue to experience a prolonged period of very low rainfall," Spelman said. "We are asking for the help of everyone by urging them to use less water and to start now."

Water companies said only 73 percent of the expected rain had fallen on the southeast from October to January, the

lowest rainfall for this period since 1992.

The River Lee, north of London, currently has only 24 percent of its average amount of water, Thames Water said.

Government agencies said some rivers and groundwater levels were lower than in Britain's drought of 1976, which came during a particularly hot summer.

The environment ministry said climate change, a rising population and changing household usage patterns were to blame for the pressure on Britain's water supplies.

"Despite our reputation as a rainy country, we may face a future with less rainfall and less certainty about when that rain will fall," it said, urging Britons to take shorter showers and fix dripping taps.

The average British household uses over 100,000 liters (26,000 gallons) of water every year.



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### **Health & Living**

# One in 10 US children have alcoholic parent: study



(AFP) - One in 10 children in the United States are living with a mother or father who has an alcohol problem and many reside with two parents who are afflicted, a government report said.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
7.5 million
children -about 10.5
percent of the
US population under
age 18 -- live
with a parent
who suffered
an alcohol
use disorder.

Some 6.1 million children live in two-parent households where one or both parents suffered from alcohol abuse. The remaining 1.4 million lived in a single-parent home where the adult had a drinking problem.

The study was conducted between 2005 and 2010 and its details were published to

coincide with Children of Alcoholics Week, which ended on February 18.

"The enormity of this public health problem goes well beyond these tragic numbers as studies have shown that the children of parents with untreated alcohol disorders are at far greater risk for developing alcohol and other problems in life," SAMHSA representative Pamela Hyde said in a statement

The report follows a government study last month that showed binge drinking is more common in the United States than previously thought, particularly among young adults, though the most frequent offenders are over 65.

# New approach urged for late-talking bilingual babies

(AFP) - Babies who are raised in homes where two or more languages are spoken may appear to talk later than those learning just one language, leaving parents puzzled and concerned as to the reasons why.

Conventional wisdom often suggests that such children are confused and so they take longer to talk. Or, parents may hear that any apparent delay is just an illusion because kids are little geniuses who can learn many languages quickly and easily.

"Both of these views are wrong," US psychologist Erika Hoff told the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Vancouver this weekend.

"It is not the case that hearing two languages confuses the child and impairs their ability to acquire anything. But it is also not the case that children can magically acquire two languages as quickly as one."

Instead, psychologists should take a different approach to testing young chil-

dren, one that measures their proficiency in both languages instead of just one.

When that is done, researchers typically find that the two tests add up to about the same level of proficiency as would be seen in a baby who is learning a single language.

Two kinds of tests have existed for decades -- the Language Development Survey and the MacArthur Bates Communicative Development Inventory -- in which parents answer questions about which words their child knows and how many word combinations the child has at around age two

Since their inception decades ago, both paper-and-pencil surveys have been adapted into different languages, with as many as 20 variations of the LDS and more than 60 of the MacArthur Bates now out there, researchers said.

Even this low-tech approach has proven superior to modern methods, said Philip Dale, professor of speech and hearing sciences at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque.

Leslie Rescorla, professor of psychology at Bryn Mawr college in Pennsylvania, who devised the LDS in the 1980s, agreed that surveys can be very effective in identifying latetalkers by 24-30 months of age.

In the LDS, parents are given a 310 word checklist, and are asked to mark which words their child says. Average children have about 150 words at that age, and late talkers have 25-50.

Rescorla presented research on new versions of the LDS distributed in Greece, South Korea and the Netherlands, which showed similar results as have been seen in the United States.

"Late-talkers are at high risk for other developmental problems," said Ratner.

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# Rio faces dengue epidemic: Brazil health minister

BRASILIA (AFP) - Brazilian Health Minister Alexandre Padilla warned that Rio de Janeiro faced a major dengue epidemic, although he said the virus strain prevalent was not fatal

"I believe that Rio could this year face one of the worst dengue epidemics in its history, in terms of number of cases," he said in a television interview.

Padilla said the dengue virus strain prevalent in Rio was not the most serious and was not fatal.

The official Agencia Brasil



said since the start of the year, 3,499 dengue cases have been recorded in Rio, compared with 2,322 last year, but none were fatal.

The government said that nationally cases dropped 62 percent this year to 40,486.

Dengue affects between 50

and 100 million people in the tropics and subtropics each year, resulting in fever, muscle and joint ache.

But it can also be fatal, developing into hemorrhagic fever and shock syndrome, which is characterized by bleeding and a loss of blood pressure.

The news comes as Carnival frenzy sweeps Brazil and the South American power-house prepares for a week of sizzling samba dancing, glittering parades and unabashed merry-making in Rio and other cities.





# Bird flu study publication gets go-ahead after security check

GENEVA (AFP) - Bird flu experts meeting in Geneva ruled that controversial research on a mutant form of the virus potentially capable of being spread among humans should be made public.

Security assessments must however be carried out first before the two studies can be published and the research can continue, scientists agreed at a two-day meeting at the World Health Organization.

"The consensus was that in



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"Together we will learn"

the interest of public health the full papers should be published," said Professor Ron Fouchier from the Institute of Virology in the Netherlands, the scientist behind one of the studies.

US bio-security chiefs urged in November that key details of the papers remain unpublished, citing fears of a pandemic should a mutated H5N1 virus escape the laboratory.

Scientists agreed on January 20 to a 60-day moratorium on further studies.

That deadline will now be extended for an unspecified time to allow for a wider group of scientists to examine the risks and allow for public discussion, Fouchier said at a conference following the meeting.

The 22 participants included the two teams of researchers and representatives of the scientific journals Science and Nature who were asked to withhold publication.

The editor of the US journal Science said he supports the decision of the bird flu experts in Geneva.

Alberts editor-in-chief of Science, said the two journals were working closely with each other and with authorities, and would await further information before making plans to publish the manuscripts in full in the months ahead.

The engineered virus, created by two separate research teams in the Netherlands and Wisconsin, was able to spread through the air among mammals, indicating it could potentially be deadly to humans on a massive scale.

Alberts said he hoped that the decision taken after the two-day Geneva meeting would lead to the creation of an international body of scientists and biosecurity experts for making future decisions on such matters.

However, NSABB leaders said last year that an international decision was needed and that they would obey any decision agreed by the global science community.

Avian influenza H5N1 is primarily transmitted between birds and very rarely to humans.

The Dutch team and another from the University of Wisconsin in the United States found ways late last year to engineer the virus so that it could be transmitted among mammals.

The breakthrough raised alarm that the method could fall into the wrong hands and unleash a massive flu pandemic that could cost millions of lives

The WHO said 345 people have died from H5N1 from a total of 584 cases in 15 countries. The majority of victims have been in Indonesia.

associated with this virus all participants at the meeting em

The body underlined the need to increase public understanding of the research and to review bio-security issues.

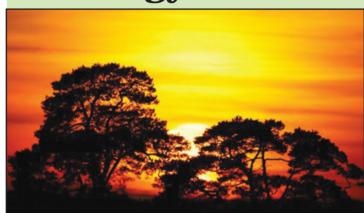
The WHO will host further meetings "soon" with a wider range of scientists.

"This was a group of experts on influenza research," said Fouchier.

"We need to consult with the broader scientific community."

#### Sci-Tech

# 'Artificial leaf' eyed as holy grail in energy research



(AFP) - Turbo-charging photosynthesis -- by which plants and bacteria turn sunlight into food and energy -- in an "artificial leaf" could yield a vast commercial power source, scientists said.

Photosynthesis is "unfortunately not very efficient," Anne Jones, assistant professor and biochemist at Arizona State University, told the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Vancouver this weekend.

"In fact, all of our current fossil fuels are products of this process," she said. But photosynthesis efficiency "could be boosted to increase food yields or sustainable biofuel production."

The world's energy consumption is expected to surge by 100 percent in the next 40 years.

That is expected even as oil and gas reserves are being used up, according to researchers, who are weighing a range of approaches to harness the power of photosynthesis to power engines.

Scientists said that given the low efficiency of photosynthesis, the top theoretical yield for squeezing energy out of the process with major crops such as wheat or sugar beets would be about five percent.

But if efficiency could be forced up by even a few percentage points, they could be sitting on major biofuel production potential.

Jones said that when the enzyme that catalyzes steps in CO2 fixation, called Rubisco, becomes saturated, the process of producing carbohydrate slows down and that most absorbed light energy is lost as heat.

"When it's sunny, a plant's molecular machinery produces more electrons than the Rubisco carbohydrate-producing engine can handle, and a lot of those electrons are wasted,"

she said.

The situation, she said, was akin to a power plant unconnected to distribution grid, in which excess energy goes to waste.

Scientists want to harness the excess solar energy by transferring energy absorbed in a photosynthetic light harvesting cell via biological nanowires to a separate cell that will produce fuel.

Howard Griffiths, a Cambridge professor of plant ecology, is aiming to increase the efficiency of Rice's photosynthesis process of manipulating the Rubisco enzyme.

It is a bit like turbocharging a motor in mechanics -- but not so easy just yet.

Nature has already seen to it that some plants -- such as sugar cane and algae -- have a relatively higher-performance sort of Rubisco enzyme on hand thanks to a molecular mechanism called C-4.

This cell machinery may be able to be genetically engineered into rice to push crop yields higher.

Another take on tweaking photosynthesis came from Richard Cogdell, director of the Institute of Molecular Cell and Systems Biology at the University of Glasgow, Scotland.

It would use an artificial leaf to directly produce biofuel, using carbon dioxide and water. The biofuel would be a terpene, which "under the right conditions ... behaves like octane," said Cogdell.

"We are a long way from that, but we have the blueprint" that will get scientists at least half the way, he said.

"That is one of the grand challenges we are facing -- when oil and gas will run out, just to develop new ways of developing solar energy into fuel. We have a window of opportunity of 30 to 50 years," Cogdell said.

#### **PICKLES**

MY GRAMPA HAD LOTS OF GOOD ADVICE ABOUT HOW TO GET AHEAD IN THIS WORLD.

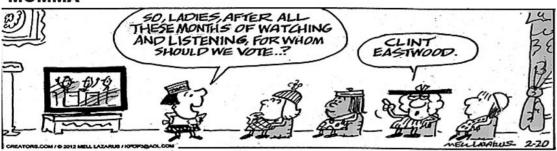








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# Sudoku

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Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9 A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

### **Finance**

# **ECB** halts bond purchases for first time since August

FRANKFURT (AFP) - Data published by the European Central Bank yesterday revealed that the bank bought no bonds of eurozone nations last week, the first time since August that such purchases have been zero.

The ECB first launched its bond-buying program, or Securities Market Program (SMP), in 2010 to help out debt-wracked eurozone countries that were finding it difficult to drum up financing the normal way via the markets.

The program was controversial from the start, with critics saving the ECB was overstepping its mandate in buying up sovereign bonds on the secondary market.

ECB President Mario Draghi and his predecessor Jean-Claude Trichet always said the measures were only temporary and aimed at easing strains in the 17-nation euro bloc, but two prominent German ECB members even quit in protest over the practice.

Between January and Au-

gust 2011, the purchases dried up, but the ECB resumed the program in August when renewed strains pushed Italian and Spanish borrowing rates to unsustainable levels.

At one point the purchases reached as much as 22 billion euros (\$29 billion) in a single week.

In total, the ECB has now bought a total 219.5 billion euros in eurozone government bonds since the start of the pro-

## US, Mexico agree on joint oil projects

LOS CABOS (AFP) - The United States and Mexico agreed yesterday to work together on oil and gas development in the energy-rich Gulf of Mexico, paving the way to end a long-running moratorium on their maritime border.

Under the deal, companies from the United States and Mexico would be encouraged to collaborate on projects over their Gulf maritime boundary but would be able to go ahead on their own if they do not find a partner.

"These reservoirs could hold considerable reserves that would benefit the United States and Mexico alike," Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said at a signing ceremony with Mexican President Felipe

Clinton was visiting the Mexican resort of Los Cabos for talks of the Group of 20 major economies, where she has voiced concerns about what she saw as unfair advantages enjoyed by state-supported companies.

Mexico's Pemex enjoys a virtual monopoly on the country's energy industry.

"For the first time, Ameri-

can energy companies will be able to collaborate with Pemex," Clinton said.

"In tough times like these, we need to make the most of every opportunity to create jobs, to foster economic growth and energy security while managing our resources and our environment responsibly for future generations," she said.

US officials said that the agreement, while not specifically authorizing new projects, would provide a legal certainty that would allow companies to move ahead on oil and gas development.

# **Dutch demand 'permanent' EU-IMF** control in Greece

BRUSSELS (AFP) - Hardline Dutch Finance Minister Jan Kees De Jager demanded yesterday that the EU and IMF take "permanent" control of government decision-making over revenues and public expenditure in Greece.

As the eurozone meets on whether to approve a 230-billion-euro (\$300 billion) financial lifeline for Greece, De Jager said: "I am in favour of a permanent troika in Athens," referring to European Union, International Monetary Fund and European Central Bank of-

SATURDAY'S

**Crossword Answer** 

BREAKEVEN NAVAL YOUNEVERCANTELL AND NED RAE

ficials reviewing the country's

De Jager, whose coalition government in The Hague has to get the bailout past an increasingly sceptical Dutch parliament, said partners committed to providing Greece money for years to come need "some kind of permanent presence" dictating policy on the ground, "not every three months."

He was referring to quarterly reports produced by the "troika" which have in some instances held up disbursement of funds under Greece's initial 110-billion-euro bailout first

agreed in May 2010.

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte recently floated the idea that the eurozone could cope with a Greek exit from the currency area much more easily than 18 months ago.

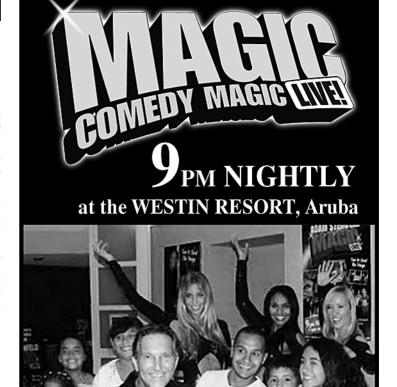
With signs that key partners from Germany to the IMF are now ready to approve the latest Greek rescue package, De Jager stressed: "It is very important when you loan money that you are the boss" when it comes to deciding when and how planned loans are made

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## Iran stops oil sales to British and French firms

TEHRAN - Iran has stopped selling crude to British and French companies, the oil ministry said on Sunday, in a retaliatory measure against fresh EU sanctions on the Islamic state's lifeblood, oil.

The European Union in January decided to stop importing crude from Iran from July 1 over its disputed nuclear program, which the West says is aimed at building bombs. Iran denies this.

Iran's oil minister said on February 4 that the Islamic state would cut its oil exports to "some" European countries.

The European Commission

said last week that the bloc would not be short of oil if Iran stopped crude exports, as they have enough in stock to meet their needs for around 120 days.

Industry sources said on February 16 that Iran's top oil buyers in Europe were making substantial cuts in supply months in advance of European Union sanctions, reducing flows to the continent in March by more than a third - or over 300,000 barrels daily.

Among European nations, debt-ridden Greece is most exposed to Iranian oil disruption

# A grand finish to Carnival 58



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## Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger

Expatriates residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu.



Gouda Burger 2

first impression," comments Aaron; and upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surcoundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgersthe way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

Prices vary only slightly between regular and small (basically 2 patties or 1) with specialty items such as Gouda Burger, Farmer's Burger, Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with crispy onion rings and BBQ sauce. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of cheese, lettuce, tomato... whatever the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries, which are made from hand-cut fresh Idaho potatoes, is enough to



You never get a sec- Rosie and Aaron love their Burge

be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe batterdipped gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner - daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. (mushrooms, However, we suggest you jalapeño peppers, bacon, stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for the owners when things are not too busy. to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island Totally yummy and fun plus a great deal for a quality burger, they are definitely worth a visit



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# NBA: Lin makes privacy plea for Taiwan relatives



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - National Basketball Association star Jeremy Lin made a public plea Sunday for reporters in Taiwan to respect the privacy of his family members there.

Lin's fairy-tale run, and the media storm that has accompanied it, has had an affect on those in his ancestral homelands.

The US-born Lin is the son of Taiwanese immigrants and his maternal grandmother is from mainland China.

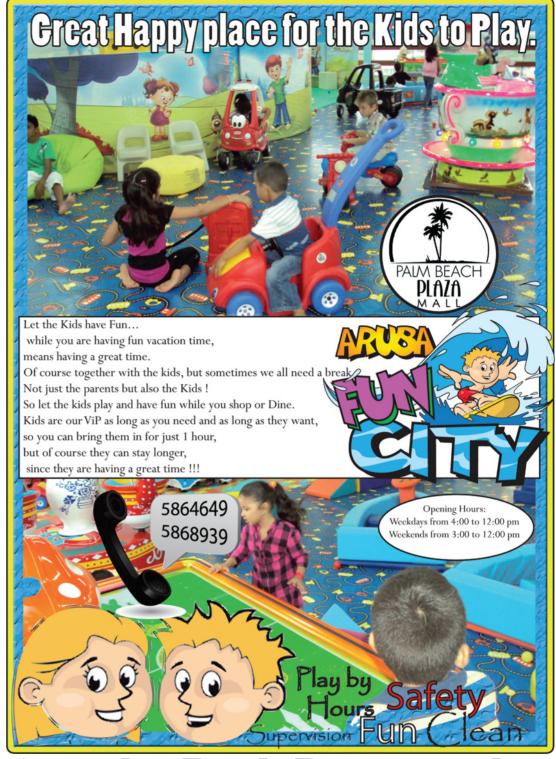
"One special request I have

is for the media in Taiwan to kind of give them their space because they can't go to work without being bombarded and people following them," said Lin, following the Knicks 104-97 win over defending NBA champion Dallas on Sunday.

"I just want people to respect the privacy of my relatives in Taiwan. Hopefully this will get back to everybody because they need to live their lives."

Lin also talked about an apology he received from US broadcasting giant ESPN which posted an anti-Asian slur in a headline on its mobile website following Friday's Knicks game.

"ESPN has apologized," Lin said. "I don't think it was on purpose. From my end, I don't care anymore. You have to learn to forgive. I don't even think that was intentional. Hopefully not."



# Arsenal, Chelsea struggle, Real, Barca cruise

PARIS (AFP) - Arsenal's misery continued when their midweek Champions League rout was followed by an FA Cupexit while Chelsea were forced into replay. Elsewhere, AC Milan went top in Italy while, in Spain, Real Madrid stayed 10 points clear of Barcelona.

#### ENGLAND

- Arsenal's season of woe took another miserable turn as the Premier League giants crashed out of the FA Cup in a 2-0 defeat at Sunderland.

Arsenal -- all but eliminated from the Champions League in midweek following a 4-0 rout by AC Milan -- saw their last realistic chance of ending a seven-year trophy drought snuffed out at the Stadium of Light.

Kieran Richardson took advantage of a poor clearance to lash in Sunderland's opener in the 40th minute before more shoddy Arsenal play culminated in a 77th-minute own goal from Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain.

Chelsea manager Andre

Villas-Boas' problems mounted after his side laboured to a 1-1 draw with lower league Birmingham.

#### SPAIN

- Lionel Messi hit four goals to inspire Barcelona to a 5-1 victory over Valencia, but the champions still remain 10 points behind leaders Real Madrid.

Messi took his league goals tally to 27 for the season and 42 in all competitions although third-placed Valencia had stunned the Spanish and European champions by taking a shock early lead.

Barca are still struggling to

Barca are still struggling to retain their title after Real Madrid had swept past Racing Santander 4-0 on Saturday.

Karim Benzema grabbed a double for Jose Mourinho's team while Cristiano Ronaldo was also on target for his 28th league goal of the season.

Real have now won 18 of the last 19 games since they drew 0-0 at Santander at the end of September.

#### ITALY

- AC Milan stormed back

to the top of Serie A with a 3-0 win at lowly Cesena. Ghana midfielder Sulley Muntari, on his debut, and Dutchman Urby Emanuelson both scored their first goals for the club with Robinho adding the third as Milan went a point clear of Juventus, although having played a game more.

The two Italian giants meet next week in a top of the table clash at the San Siro.

Juventus had taken over at the summit on Saturday with a 3-1 win over 10-man Catania.

Udinese are third despite being held to a 0-0 draw at home by Cagliari. That was because Lazio crashed to a humiliating 5-1 thrashing at Palermo to continue their poor run in 2012, losing six of their 11 games in all competitions.

Roma moved up to fifth and sent Inter Milan, who lost 3-0 at home to Bologna on Friday, down to seventh with a 1-0 win over Parma.

#### **GERMANY**

- Borussia Dortmund earned a 1-0 win at struggling

Hertha Berlin to open a threepoint lead at the top of the German league as Bayern Munich were held to a goalless draw at bottom-side Freiburg

draw at bottom-side Freiburg.

Bayern, who drop to third in the table, are four points off the pace.

Borussia Moenchengladbach beat Kaiserslautern 2-1 to stay second, three points behind Dortmund.

#### FRANCE

- Montpellier proved their title credentials by holding league leaders Paris Saint-Germain to a 2-2 draw in the top-of-the-table clash at Parc des Princes.

John Utaka's header gave Montpellier a 2-1 lead with eight minutes to play but a tapin from substitute Guillaume Hoarau two minutes from time preserved PSG's one-point lead over Rene Girard's side.

#### **NETHERLANDS**

- PSV Eindhoven and AZ Alkmaar both lost 3-0 at FC Groningen and FC Utrecht respectively as Heerenveen moved to within two points of the joint leaders by beating Breda 1-0.

#### PORTUGAL

- FC Porto beat Vitoria Setubal 3-1 to cut the gap on leaders Benfica to two points.



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# Tennis: Jankovic determined to get Navratilova back on top of the DUBA (AFP) - Former world number one Caroline Wozniworld

DUBAI (AFP) - Former world number one Jelena Jankovic here on Monday made it clear that she has not given up hope

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Tel: 588-9517 / Fax: 588-9518 E-mail: themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com Website: www.themorningnewsaruba.com of regaining her former status after making a winning start in the city of her adopted home.

The extrovert Serbian overcame Petra Cetkovska, the Paris-based Czech, 6-2, 6-2 to reach the second round of the WTA Dubai Open, where she once reached the final.

Jankovic was in good form both on and off the court, hitting ground strokes with good rhythm despite the cold conditions, describing her injury problems in some detail, and not missing an opportunity for humour.

Jankovic also moved fairly well, which was a little surprising since she suffered an injury at the Fed Cup two weeks ago which required heavy bandaging to her left thigh.

Getting fully fit and remaining so is the key to her climbing from her current world ranking of 14 to challenge for the top spot again, she acknowledged with some force.

"I wish," she said. "It's my biggest wish. But sometimes there are things you can't control.'

How far she has controlled her latest ailment, and how likely she is to reach her allotted seeding place in the quarter-finals may be tested more rigorously by her next opponent, Flavia Pennetta.

# Tennis: Wozniacki hits out at

number one Caroline Wozniacki hit back at Martina Navratilova on Monday for claiming that the Dane had never deserved to be top of the world rankings.

Wozniacki also suggested she has lost respect for Navratilova, regarded by many as the greatest woman player ever, implying that her TV commentating sought to stir things up and that it would be better to "think a little bit."

"I would never say Martina was number one when there was no-one playing," Wozniacki said, "or that she was the best when no-one was playing. That would be disrespectful."

Her comment was an echo of Navratilova's remarks at an Australian Open press conference, in which the 55-year-old legend said: "Clearly nobody feels Wozniacki is a true number one."

Navratilova, whose 18 Grand Slam singles titles were achieved when the women's game had less depth, also criticized the modern ranking system which placed Wozniacki at the top for 68 weeks.

This places too much emphasis on the quantity of wins rather than their quality, Navratilova alleged, suggesting fellow Czech Petra Kvitova, Wimbledon champion and winner of five other titles last year, should have become number one instead.



Martina Navratilova has won 18 grand slam titles

Wozniacki reacted almost as strongly when asked about Navratilova's comment that it was Kvitova and Victoria Azarenka who now formed the game's best rivalry.

"They always have to make comments, and that's what they get paid for - to be comments, because they are not playing any more. And they need to stir everything up," Wozniacki said.

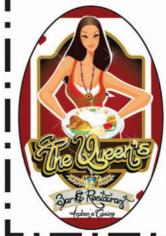
"When I was number one they needed to make a story so in the beginning when I was coming up they were saying I was the next big thing.

"Then when I had been there for a while and it got boring.....then they said she hasn't won a Grand Slam because and because and because.

"Soon it will be if Victoria (Azarenka) loses a match, 'how could she lose a match?"

Wozniacki lost her world number one ranking to Azarenka three weeks ago, and is seeded three in defence of the Dubai Open title this week, behind the Belarussian and the Czech.

Kvitova has since withdrawn with a virus, and Wozniacki should play Azarenka in the semi-finals on Friday.



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# **Boxing:** Chisora, Haye could face German jail sentences



BERLIN (AFP) - British boxers David Haye and Dereck Chisora could both face possible prison sentences in Germany following their Munich brawl, prosecutors here confirmed Monday.

Haye and Chisora clashed during the press conference after Chisora's defeat to defending WBC heavyweight champion Vitali Klitschko on Saturday night in the Bavarian capital.

In front of stunned reporters and the assembled media, Chisora confronted Haye, who was working at the fight as a pundit, and the pair had to be separated after trading blows which saw both of their trainers get involved.

Haye is suspected of grievous bodily harm and if found guilty, faces up to 10 years in prison.

Haye, who lost his World Boxing Association (WBA) heavyweight title on points to Vitali's brother Wladimir in July last year, proved hard to track down but he finally issued a statement later on Monday through his promoters in London.

"I realise I am no angel - and don't mind a bit of professional trash-talk to help raise boxing's profile - but, during my 21 years in the sport, I have never been involved in, or even witnessed, such a serious fracas," said Haye, who threw the first punch as Chisora approached him. "If requested, I shall happily assist the boxing authorities with any investigation they wish to launch and, ultimately, hope that all lessons learned from this incident will be implemented."

Chisora is suspected of malicious injury, which carries a jail sentence of up to five years, and threatening behaviour, which is punishable by a fine or imprisonment of up to one year.

one year.
"They are both facing a fine or a possible prison sentence," a Munich police spokesman told AFP with investigations still on going

still on going.

After the brawl at Munich's Olympiahalle, Haye is believed to have immediately left the country and police were unable to locate him after searching his hotel in the early hours of Sunday morning.

Chisora and his trainer Don Charles were both arrested at Munich airport as they prepared to board a plane and were taken for questioning at the city's police station, but were released on Sunday evening.

The British Boxing Board of Control has already said Chisora could face a life ban after the brawl which has badly tarnished the sport's image and are investigating him on a misconduct charge.

Haye does not have a licence to fight, having officially retired in October, but the board could choose to effectively ban him by denying him a licence if he seeks to fight

